**Child Labour**

982. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has been witnessing growth in terms of engagement of children before the age of working in various sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have asked the Registrar-General of Census to furnish figures for child labour in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (b) As per Census 2001, the number of working children in the age group of 5—14 years in the country has registered slight increase over that of 1991 in absolute terms. The total number of working children in the country as per the 1991 census was 1.12 crore and it was 1.26 crore according to the 2001 census. However, the percentage of working children to that of child population in the corresponding age group has come down.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Registrar-General and Census Commissioner is providing the figures of working children in the country.

**Mandays lost due to strike**

983. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the mandays lost due to strike during 2002-03, 2003-04, and 2004-05;

(b) the mandays lost due to lock-out during the above period; and

(c) the mandays lost due to lay-off during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (c) A statement showing the number of mandays lost due to strikes, lock-outs and lay-offs during 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 is at enclosed statement.

***Statement***

*Mandays lost (in millions) due to strikes, lock-outs and lay-offs*

| Year | Strikes | Lock-outs | Lay-offs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2002 | 9.66 | 16.92 | 2.78 |
| 2003 | 3.21 | 27.05 | 1.92 |
| 2004 | 4.83 | 19.04 | 1.79 |
| 2005(P) | 7.29 | 15.98 | 0.88 |

Source: Labour Bureau, Shimla.
P: Provisional

**Assistance to vocational training centres in Andhra Pradesh**

984. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of vocational training centres being run in Andhra Pradesh with the central assistance;

(b) whether Central Government have not provided any grant to the state for running these centres during the last three years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any proposal for central assistance received from the State is pending with the Central Government;

(e) if so, by when the said proposal is likely to be sanctioned; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (c) The Industrial Training Institutes/Centres are set up and run by the State Government and Private bodies out of their own funds and no central assistance is provided to run these institutes.

(d) to (f) A scheme to upgrade 100 Government ITIs to Centres of Excellence including 5 in Andhra Pradesh has been taken up during the